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THE  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

For the Year 1925,

OF THE  
**MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH,**

WITH THAT OF THE  
**SANITARY INSPECTOR,**

FOR  
The Rural District of Tamworth.

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**HERBERT J. FAUSSET, M.D.,**  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

**JOHN W. PARKER, M.S.I.A.,**  
*Sanitary Inspector.*



# TAMWORTH

## Rural District Council.

### ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

#### The Tamworth Union.

Population in 1881	-	-	19,379
1891	-	-	21,862
1901	-	-	24,667
1911	-	-	28,887
1921	-	-	31,562

#### Tamworth Rural District.

Population in 1881	-	-	14,509
1891	-	-	15,207
1901	-	-	17,396
1911	-	-	21,148
1921	-	-	23,530

#### 1. General Statistics.

Area of district in acres, 43,535.

Population 23,530 (1921), 24,493 (estimated 1925).

Number of inhabited houses 4,480 (1921).

Number of families or separate occupiers 4,600 (1921).

Approximate Assessable Value £112,189 (1925).

Approximate sum represented by a penny rate:—£450 : 0 : 0.

#### Staffordshire Parishes.

Population in 1881	-	-	4,962
1891	-	-	4,770
1901	-	-	4,800
1911	-	-	5,113
1921	-	-	5,400

Area of district in acres, 21,835.

Population 5,400 (1921), 5,873 (estimated 1925).

Number of inhabited houses 1,116 (1921).

Number of families or separate occupiers 1,133 (1921).

**Warwickshire Parishes.**

Population in 1881	-	-	9,453
1891	-	-	10,122
1901	-	-	12,596
1911	-	-	16,035
1921	-	-	18,130

Area of district in acres, 21,700.

Population 18,130 (1921), 18,620 (estimated 1925).

Number of inhabited houses 3,364 (1921).

Number of families or separate occupiers 3,467 (1921).

*To the Chairman and Members of the Tamworth  
Rural District Council.*

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MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you for your consideration my forty-ninth Annual Report on the vital statistics and sanitary conditions of your District, and on various matters connected therewith, for the year ended 31st December, 1925.

In accordance with instructions received from the Ministry of Health, the present Report is a Survey Report dealing comprehensively with the special information required by the Ministry, under the following headings:—

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA;

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA;

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA;

HOUSING;

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD;

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE;

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

The Rural District of Tamworth consists of twelve parishes in Staffordshire and nine in Warwickshire, with an estimated population of 24,493 in 1925.

There are two rivers, the Tame and Anker, and the Birmingham and Coventry Canal passing through the district; the London, Midland and Scottish Railway has two lines crossing at the Tamworth Station which give a good train service; and motor omnibuses link the scattered parishes with the market town of Tamworth, whose surplus population, owing to housing shortage, is compelled to live outside the Borough.

*Staffordshire.* The parishes of Canwell, Clifton Campville, Croxall, Edingale, Drayton Bassett, Fazeley, Harlaston, Hints, Seierseote, Statfold, Thorpe Constantine and Wigginton have an estimated population in 1925 of 5,873. This district is mainly agricultural, but also contains a large paper-mill at Alders, in the parish of Wigginton, and small-ware manufactories and bleach works at Fazeley. Under Borough Council control there are in the parish of Wigginton 106 allotments.

*Warwickshire.* The parishes of Amington and Stonidelf, Austrey, Bolehall and Glascote, Kingsbury, Middleton, Newton Regis, including Noman's Heath, Seekington, Shuttington, including Alveeote and Wilnecote and Castle Liberty have an estimated population in 1925 of 18,620. Although some of the above are entirely agricultural, the others are situated in the Warwickshire Coalfield Area which provides the main occupation of the district. Other industries include the manufacture of terra-cotta, drain-pipes and other sanitary appliances, glazed and common brickmaking and stone-quarrying. A large paper-mill, iron-foundry, boot factory, clothing factory, and canal-boat building yard are also situated in the district.

*Recreations.* In most of the parishes there are cricket, football and lawn-tennis clubs. There is a Cinema at Wilnecote. Great numbers of the residents visit the Borough of Tamworth during the week-ends.

**Vital Statistics.****Staffordshire.**

		Total.	M.	F.	Birth-rate (R.G.)
<i>Births.</i>	{ Legitimate	126	65	61	22'1
	{ Illegitimate	4	2	2	
					Death-rate (R.G.)
<i>Deaths.</i>		71	38	33	12'1

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of child-birth:—

{	from sepsis.....	0
{	„ other causes...	1

Deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 births:—

Legitimate 87,      Illegitimate 0,      Total ... 85.

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	0
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)		...	1
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		...	0

**Warwickshire.**

		Total.	M.	F.	Birth-rate (R.G.)
<i>Births.</i>	{ Legitimate	354	181	173	19'7
	{ Illegitimate	12	5	7	
					Death-rate (R.G.)
<i>Deaths.</i>		200	99	101	10'7

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of child-birth:—

{	from sepsis.....	0
{	„ other causes...	0

Deaths of infants under one year of age per 1,000 births:—

Legitimate 59'3,      Illegitimate 83'3,      Total ... 60'1

Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	0
„ „ Whooping Cough (all ages)		...	0
„ „ Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)		...	2

# Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1925.

(Provisional figures. The rates for England and Wales have been calculated on a population estimated to the middle of 1925.

Birth-rate per 1,000 Total Population.	Annual Death-rate per 1,000 Population.									Rate per 1,000 Births.		Percentage of Total Deaths.			
	All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox.	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence.	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under Two years).	Total Deaths under One year.	Causes of Death certified by Registered Medical Practitioners.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.	
England and Wales	18·3	12·2	0·01	0·00	0·13	0·03	0·15	0·07	0·32	0·47	8·4	75	92·1	6·9	1·0
Tamworth R. D. (Staffordshire)	22·1	12·1	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·17	0·68	0·17	0·17	0·00	85	93·0	Notified. 1·4	5·6
Tamworth R. D. (Warwickshire)	19·7	10·7	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·05	0·00	0·80	0·59	0·48	5·5	60	93·5	4·0	2·5



### Poor-Law Relief.

The amount of Poor-Law Relief during 1925 was £3,227 : 0 : 4½.

### Gratuitous Medical Relief.

*The Tamworth Hospital* situated in the borough of Tamworth is supported by voluntary subscriptions, donations and the weekly payment scheme. Its proximity to the populous and mining districts of the area makes it a very great boon, both in cases of accident and sickness. With greatly increased accommodation, owing to the large wards, opened in 1924 by H.R.H. The Duke of York, in memory of the local men who died in the Great War, and the installation of an X. Rays Apparatus, the Hospital is now able to offer assistance to more cases than was formerly possible.

The number of cases admitted during 1925 was 340, an increase of 67 over the previous year.

The patients and staff were able to "listen in" on Christmas Day, for the first time; and the installation of an up-to-date Wireless Receiver with 50 pairs of Headphones and 3 Loud Speakers, as a result of a public appeal, proves to be a great delight.

*The Infirmary at the Tamworth Poor-Law Institution*, situated in the parish of Wigginton, can accommodate from 60 to 70 patients.

*Guy's Almshouses* in the borough of Tamworth are available for 14 elderly women who have resided in the hamlets for three years, or who can prove their direct descent from Thomas Guy. They live in very comfortable surroundings and get their medical relief gratuitously.

### Causes of Sickness.

In common with the rest of the country, no doubt, the health of the residents in the district suffered from the long periods of cold winds in the spring, the short summer and lack of sunshine, the early autumn and prolonged winter. These causes contributed to the prevalence of diseases of the respiratory organs. During the past five years influenza was a general complaint in the early months of the year, and diphtheria was epidemic throughout the autumn and winter of 1925; other epidemics include scarlet fever and diphtheria in 1921-2.

### GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

#### Hospitals provided or subsidised by the Local Authority or by the County Council: -

(1). *Tuberculosis.* There are several sanatoria provided by the Staffordshire County Council, those to which patients from this district are generally admitted are situated at Groundslow, Prestwood and



Kinver, besides others. Provision has been made by the Warwickshire County Council for the reception and treatment of cases at Brameote, Exall, Winsley and King Edward VII. Memorial Hall, Hertford Hill, and at other sanatoria provided in the County.

(2). *Maternity.* There is no Maternity Home in the district; admission can be obtained to Cleveland House, under certain conditions. The lying-in wards at the Tamworth Poor-Law Institution fulfil a very useful work where the patients receive the care, attention and nursing so necessary for their well-being. There is a small private Maternity Home in the Borough.

(3). *Children.* Children are admitted to the Tamworth Hospital on the weekly payment of a small sum. Arrangements have been made by the Warwickshire County Council for the treatment here of some of the children of school age suffering from enlarged tonsils and adenoids, requiring operation for removal.

(4). *Fever.* The Tamworth Isolation Hospital is administered by the Tamworth Joint Hospital Board consisting of representatives of the Rural and Urban District Councils.

There were in Hospital on January 1st, 1925, ten patients remaining over from the previous year. The total number of admissions during the year was 135, of which 6 were scarlet fever and 129 were diphtheria cases, compared with 72 cases admitted in 1924, of which 16 were scarlet fever and 56 were diphtheria cases. There were 11 fatal cases of patients belonging to the district, and 5 to the Borough.

The admissions were as follows:—

		Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.
From the Rural District	..	6	86
„ Urban „	...	—	43
		—	—
Total		6	129
		—	—

The parishes in the Rural District from which the cases were admitted, and the numbers are as follows:—

Staffordshire—

			Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Total.
Drayton	...	...	—	1	1
Fazeley	...	...	—	17	17
			—	—	—
Total			—	18	18

## Warwickshire—

		Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Total.
Amington	...	—	3	3
Bolehall and Glaseote	...	4	49	53
Kingsbury	...	2	4	6
Wilneeote	...	—	12	12
		—	—	—
	Total	6	68	74
		—	—	—

Unremitting care, nursing and attention has been given by the Matron and Staff during the exceptionally heavy period of the epidemic of diphtheria. There have not been so many patients admitted to the Hospital since 1922, when there were 162, all scarlet fever, cases. In 1921 there were 151 admissions, 17 diphtheria and 134 scarlet-fever cases. The administrative part of the duties was ably carried out by the Matron, Miss Hutchinson.

The Hospital has a large garden from which a plentiful supply of vegetables is obtained for the patients and staff, so that with the fruit also grown an economy is effected in the catering.

(5). *Small-pox.* The Tamworth Joint Hospital Board has become a Constituent Authority of the South Staffordshire Joint Small-pox Hospital Board, and any case arising in the district consequently, can now be admitted to the Small-pox Hospital, Moxley, near Bilston.

### **Institutional provision for Unmarried Mothers, Illegitimate Infants, and Homeless Children in the District.**

There is a Children's Home at Glascote provided by the Tamworth Board of Guardians, where children are boarded out under the care of Miss Standforth, the Foster-Mother, and receive the necessary attention for their physical welfare together with home comforts and training.

The Infirmary of the Poor-Law Institution, as has been already mentioned, affords accommodation for the maternity cases, including unmarried mothers.

### **Ambulance Facilities.**

(a) *For Infectious Cases.* Arrangements have been made whereby infectious cases (diphtheria and scarlet fever) are conveyed to the Isolation Hospital by motor-ambulance, especially kept for the purpose at a garage in Tamworth.

(b) *For Non-Infectious and Accident Cases.* Ambulances are kept at the various Collieries in the district, by means of which cases of accident or illness can be readily removed to hospital or to their respective homes. Ambulances can also be hired from the Rescue Station, Wilnecote and from Tamworth, in the event of a patient requiring to be removed to one of the Birmingham Hospitals or to any distant locality.

### **Clinics and Treatment Centres.**

*Maternity and Child Welfare Centres.* There are Child Welfare Centres at Glascote and Wilnecote.

*Day Nurseries.* There are no Day Nurseries in the district.

*School Clinics.* School clinics are held at the various schools by the School Medical Officers, appointed by the County Councils of Staffordshire and Warwickshire, assisted by Health Visitors.

*Tuberculosis Dispensaries.* Patients attend for consultation at the Tuberculosis Dispensaries at Lichfield and Stafford, provided by the Staffordshire County Council, and at Atherstone, Nuneaton and Coventry, provided by the Warwickshire County Council; they are also visited at their homes by the County Tuberculosis Officers and Health Visitors.

*Treatment Centres for Venereal Diseases.* The arrangements made by the County Councils of Staffordshire and Warwickshire provide facilities for the early treatment of persons of both sexes suffering from these diseases. There is a Residential Hostel at Wolverhampton to which expectant mothers and others have been admitted with most beneficial results for themselves and their offspring. Treatment can be obtained at Lichfield, at the North Stafford Infirmary, Stoke-on-Trent, and at the Wolverhampton General Hospital; and also the at Coventry and Warwickshire Hospital for persons residing in Warwickshire.

### **Public Health Staff.**

(a) *The Medical Officer of Health* is a part-time officer, half of whose salary is a contribution made by Exchequer grant. The County Council undertake the medical inspection of school children, and are responsible for the work of the Health Visitors and any Special Nurses required for the district.

(b) *The Sanitary Inspector* is a whole-time officer, half of whose salary is also contributed by Exchequer Grant.

### **Professional Nursing in the Home.**

(a) *General.* In several of the parishes there are Nurses provided by the Nursing Associations of Staffordshire and Warwickshire, who give much appreciated aid to the sick and infirm, and to those suffering from chronic ailments.

(b) *For Infectious Diseases.* By arrangement the Staffordshire County Council in connection with the County Nursing Association, provides Emergency Nurses for the home-nursing of measles and epidemic diarrhoea under circumstances where adequate provision for nursing cannot be made by the patient's family, and where skilful nursing is specially required by reason of the severity of the outbreak.

*Midwives.* The inspection of the certified Midwives practising in the district is undertaken by the County Nursing Associations. There are about 20 Midwives, not, however, all resident in the district.

### **SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.**

#### **Water Supply.**

The Tamworth and District Waterworks are situated at Hopwas in the parish of Wigginton, in the Staffordshire portion of the district, and from this source the village of Wigginton and the hamlets in this parish are supplied. Fazeley, including Bonehill, is also supplied from the same source from which a constant and abundant supply of pure and wholesome water has hitherto been obtained, sufficient for drinking and domestic purposes.

The village of Hints derives its supply from a brook, the water from which is pumped by rams into a reservoir on the higher ground, from which it gravitates to supply the houses, cottages and farms, with the exception of those situated on the outskirts of the parish. This water is of good quality.

The villages of Croxall and Edingale are partly supplied with water from wells specially provided for their use. Other portions of the district situated in Staffordshire, which are mainly agricultural, derive a good supply from some fairly deep wells, but for the most part the water for drinking purposes, especially for the cottages in the outlying parts of the district, is derived from shallow wells and springs.

In the Warwickshire portion of the district, the populous parishes of Amington and Stonydelph, Bolehall and Glascote, Wilnecote and Castle Liberty, derive a constant and plentiful supply from the Tamworth and District Waterworks, and part of Shuttington, including Alvecote and the hamlet of Dosthill, in the parish of Kingsbury, are supplied by arrangement from this source. The village of Kingsbury

and the hamlets of Bodymoor Heath, Cliff, Coton and Halloughton, are supplied by gravitation from the reservoir near Kingsbury Wood, fed by the Dumble Springs. Hurley, Hurley Common, Wood End, Edgehill, Pieceadilly and Whateley, are supplied by arrangement with the Dugdale Trustees, from their reservoir at Bentley.

At Middleton water is pumped into a reservoir by means of a windmill, and by gravitation supplies five farm houses, the vicarage, the school and six cottages, and in a similar way three farms and a house at Allen End obtain their supply. Another reservoir on the Sutton Road supplies a farm and a private dwelling-house in this vicinity.

Seckington village has two reservoirs kept filled with good water, also by means of a windmill, the water gravitating to the houses and cottages.

Newton Regis, Noman's Heath and Austrey, obtain their supplies from deep wells, and from the usual shallow wells and springs, which are found in country places.

In order to meet a threatened shortage of water due for the most part to the greatly increased needs of the area, and aggravated by a lengthened period of drought, the Waterworks Joint Committee, advised by the late Professor Lapworth and Dr. H. Lapworth, decided to sink a Bore hole within the grounds of the Pumping Station at Hopwas, and by this means obtain an additional supply.

During the period under consideration the work connected with this undertaking has been proceeded with and in spite of unforeseen difficulties and delays is in a fair way towards completion.

The site selected for the bore hole was 41' 7" from the centre of the well, and boring was commenced by the British Well-boring Company in August, 1920. The depth of the bore hole was 220 feet.

The first 172 feet was sunk in water-tight marl (similar to the strata passed through in the well). From 172-192 feet a thickness of 20 feet of conglomerates and sandstone was penetrated, and for the remaining 28 feet the underlying Permian Marls were encountered, and the latter 28 feet was afterwards filled up with concrete, as the Marl beds of the so-called Permian formation is unsuitable for extracting water for supply purposes.

In 1922 a 72 hours continuous Pumping test was carried out to ascertain the yield of the bore hole, and during the test it was observed that the discharge water was somewhat discoloured. The average hourly yield of the bore hole was 21,266 gallons, whilst the average hourly yield of the well was 41,270 gallons.



A new Engine has been erected over the bore hole, and a Tangye Horizontal Coupled Compound Condensing Steam Engine with high and low pressure cylinders speeded at 24 revolutions per minute and capable of raising 30,000 gallons per hour.

The quality of the water is very similar to that of the well, as will be seen from the following Analyses:—

	Borehole.	Well.
Frec and Saline Ammonia	0'001	0'001
Albuminoid Ammonia	0'006	0'002
Chlorine in Chlorides	3'200	3'000
Nitrogen in Nitrates and Nitrates	0'550	0'550
Oxygen absorbed from permanganate at 80° F. in 4 hours	0'003	0'
Total solids dried at 100° C.	36'	36'
Hardness { Temporary	10'01	12'03
{ Permanent	11'07	9'75
{ Total	21'08	21'78

It may be assumed that with the growing needs of the district the Waterworks Committee have provided for an efficient supply for some years.

The following are the Pumping Records for the past 6 years:—

1920	...	255,710,000 gallons.
1921	...	224,930,000 „
1922	...	205,792,000 „
1923	...	216,762,000 „
1924	...	211,844,000 „
1925	...	219,874,000 „

The Committee have agreed to take into the water area the parishes of Shuttington and Dosthill who have been supplied for some years under an agreement.

Considerable mains extensions have been carried out in the Rural District, namely:— a 4" main through School Lane, Amington, 3" mains at Clifford Street and Summerfield Road, Glascote. An extension along Fazeley Road and Gillway, Wigginton, and a circuit from Wigginton Road to Ashby Road supplying the new Housing Scheme.

The average consumption per head throughout the area is 19'3 gallons.

I am indebted to Mr. J. C. Radford, Waterworks Manager, for supplying me with the above summary.

### **Rivers Pollution.**

The work of the inspection of the rivers Tame and Anker under the Rivers Pollution Prevention Acts is undertaken by officials appointed by the County Councils of Staffordshire and Warwickshire for this purpose, by whom samples of the river water and the effluents from the various sewage disposal works are taken for analyses. Both the rivers Tame and Anker are polluted before entering the district, and the only instances where contamination occurs in this district is of the river Tame occasionally from the sewage disposal works at Hurley and of the Anker from the disposal works at Alvecote.

### **Floods.**

Suggestions have been made from time to time as to various measures which if adopted might at least be expected to lessen to some extent the serious damage, inconvenience to traffic and danger to health caused by the immense volume of water which overflows the rivers' banks on to the adjoining lands in times of continuous heavy rains.

To alleviate the flooding of land in the western portion of Kingsbury and Middleton a new cut has been made in the river Tame to divert the flow of the river from the weir, with the result that the lands immediately above have not been flooded in the early winter months.

A far-reaching scheme which also included work for a considerable number of men unemployed at the time, and which must have had a very great influence in lessening the extent of the flooding by a more rapid diminution of its volume through the removal of obstructions to its free flow, has temporarily fallen through.

The idea of the Scheme was to provide for the cleaning out of the rivers' beds of the various accumulations of many years past, of sewage, gravel and silt, fallen trees, snags and uprooted stumps which have led to the formation of artificial weirs, embankments and islands, covered with willows, other trees and vegetation, and in many places obstructing its normal flow and rendering it quite incapable of dealing with any sudden or increasing volume of water.

The time at which it was proposed to commence this work was in the early winter months when the river was most likely to be more or less in flood, and as this was so palpably the case the project fell through. The opinion that labour would be in greater demand in the drier seasons of the year did not appeal to your Council. It is most desirable that this proposal should come up again under other conditions.



### Sewage Disposal.

The sewage from houses in Wilnecote and Castle Liberty, Bolehall and Glascote, Fazeley and part of Wigginton, flows by gravitation to the pumping station on the Lichfield Road within the Borough of Tamworth, and together with the sewage of the Borough is pumped to the sewage outfall works at Coton in the parish of Wigginton, where it flows into a detritus and storm overflow chamber and is then discharged into three septic tanks and distributed over eight percolating filter-beds. The sewage is treated on both filter-beds and land, and the storm water on land. A series of new sludge beds have been constructed. The effluent is discharged into a brook which flows into the River Tame. Samples of the effluent are taken periodically by the County authorities, and the analyses show an average satisfactory result.

Since the installation of the Water Carriage System throughout the whole of the Borough and parts of the Rural District the works are only just capable of dealing with the sewage. Six acres of land at the outfall works have been broken up and put under cultivation.

There is a small scheme for the village of Hopwas where the sewage is treated by means of a filter-bed.

For Kingsbury village and the outlying hamlets in this parish there are four systems with filter-beds for dealing with the disposal of the sewage, one at Kingsbury, one at Wood End, one at Hurley Village, and one at Hurley Common.

In the parish of Shuttington the sewage from about 60 houses at Alvecote flows into a sewage tank. It is intended to make some improvement in the arrangements adopted here, to enable the sewage to receive more effectual treatment, and this matter is having attention. It is a difficult site and does not adapt itself to treatment by gravitation, and when the river is in flood a certain amount of silt is washed on to the site on which the tank is fixed.

### HOUSING.

There is a present shortage of houses available for the working classes and the partial extent to which this has been endeavoured to be overcome by your Council and by private enterprise during the past five years may be seen from the accompanying table:—

1921. 1922. 1923. 1924. 1925. Total.

*Staffordshire—*

Canwell ...	—	c 13	—	—	—	13
Clifton Campville ...	—	1	—	—	2	3
Drayton Bassett ...	1	—	3	8	—	12
Fazeley ...	1	2	9	14	3	29
Thorpe Constantine	1	—	—	—	—	1
Wigginton ...	A 51	2	6	16	11	86

*Warwickshire—*

Amington ...	1	2	—	1	—	4
Austrey ...	1	—	—	—	3	4
Bolehall and Glascote	9	11	6	26	16	68
Kingsbury ...	2	1	3	15	6	27
Seckington ...	1	1	—	1	—	3
Shuttington ...	—	—	—	1	—	1
Wilnecote ...	B 43	2	7	20	4	76
	111	35	34	102	45	327

(A) Includes 50 houses built in the parish of Wigginton for the Tamworth Borough Council.

(B) Includes 40 houses built in the parish of Wilnecote for the Rural District Council.

(C) Includes 13 houses built in the parish of Canwell by the City of Birmingham for small holdings.

The general housing conditions are on the whole satisfactory, with the exception of a few which from age and structural defects are not really fit for human habitation; there is however a good deal of overcrowding in some parts of the district in houses occupied by the working classes, its worst phase being the lack of sufficient bedroom accommodation which is sometimes severely taxed in the event of a new arrival or illness. The majority of the better class houses are as a rule kept scrupulously clean and tidy, some occupiers however seem hopelessly behind in this respect and make little attempt, or should the family be a large one have perhaps no heart, to struggle against ill health and the depressing surroundings in which they are situated. Much of the overcrowding is due to the shortage of houses. The tenants with some exceptions keep their houses lime-washed and papered for their own comfort. The outside painting of some houses is in many instances long overdue. Owners are for the most part as regard other defects ready to comply with reasonable requests in good time.

### Housing Statistics for the Year 1925.

#### 1. *Unfit dwelling-houses.*

Inspection.—(1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts - - - - - 278

(2). Number of dwelling-houses which were inspected and recorded under the Housing (Inspection of District) Regulations, 1910 - - - - - 15

(3). Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation - - - - - 2

(4). Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-heading) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation - 122

#### 2. *Remedy of Defects without Service of formal Notices.*

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers - - - - - 122

#### 3. *Action under Statutory Powers.*

A.—Proceedings under section 28 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act, 1919.

(1.) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs - - - - - 9

(2). Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit:—

(a) by owners - - - - - 7

(b) by Local Authority in default of owners - Nil

(3). Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders became operative in pursuance of declarations by owners of intention to close - - - - - 2

#### B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts.

(1). Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied - 46

(2). Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied:—

(a) by owners - - - - - 39

(b) by Local Authority in default of owner - Nil

C.—Proceedings under section 17 and 18 of the Housing, Town Planning, &c. Act, 1909.

(1). Number of representations made with a view to the making of Closing Orders	-	-	-	9
(2). Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were made	-	-	-	2
(3). Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the dwelling-houses having been remedied fit	-	-	-	Nil
(4). Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	-	-	-	Nil
(5). Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	-	-	-	Nil

#### PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

##### STAFFORDSHIRE.

*Small-pox.* No case of small-pox has been notified in the period under review 1921-25.

*Scarlet Fever.* In 1921 there were 22 cases of scarlet fever notified. It was epidemic in 1922 in several parts of the district, more especially in the parishes of Fazeley and Drayton, where 44 out of the total of 49 cases were notified; this disease continued to be prevalent in Fazeley in 1923, where 12 more cases out of a total of 13 for the whole district were notified. Eight cases occurred in 1924 and three in 1925.

*Diphtheria.* Four cases of diphtheria occurred in 1921, seventeen in 1922, six in 1923, six in 1924, and during 1925 the disease appeared in an epidemic form, 61 cases being notified, chiefly in the parish of Fazeley.

By arrangement with the County Council of Staffordshire throat specimens for diphtheria are forwarded for bacteriological examination to the County Laboratory at Wolverhampton, and more recently to Wissage, Lichfield. Of this facility the medical practitioners of the district have largely taken advantage.

A supply of antitoxin is kept so as to be readily available for their use.

As far as possible cases are removed to the Isolation Hospital, swabbings taken from other contacts in some instances, and any children in infected homes excluded from school attendance. Examination of the throats of children at the various homes have been made. Numerous swabbings were taken at Fazeley School in conjunction with Dr. Mathieson, Assistant School Medical Officer. Numerous visits have been paid to the houses and cottages by your Sanitary Inspector and myself. Leaflets drawing attention to the dangerous character of the disease and the vital importance of early medical treatment have been freely distributed.

Several "carrier" cases were followed up and a few were admitted to the Isolation Hospital for treatment. In persistent cases the adoption of operative measures has met with success, and in prolonged cases a few throat specimens have been submitted to a virulent test with satisfactory results. The Schick Test has only been used in a few cases among the staff at the Isolation Hospital, and the Dick Test in scarlet-fever has not been put in practice for various reasons, although the means for doing so have been obtained.

*Enteric Fever.* There has been almost a total absence of enteric fever in the district during the past five years, only one case at Hints, contracted while travelling abroad was notified, in 1923.

*Erysipelas.* Six cases were notified in the years 1921-25.

*Vaccination.* The number of (a) primary and (b) revaccinations performed by the Medical Officer of Health under the Public Health (Small-pox Prevention) Regulations, 1917, are as follows:—

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	Total.
(a) Primary Vaccinations	14	9	22	18	17	80
(b) Revaccinations	0	5	15	3	2	25

## WARWICKSHIRE.

*Small-pox.* There were no cases of small-pox notified in 1921-25.

*Scarlet Fever.* This disease was epidemic in 1921 in several parts of the district, more especially in the parish of Wilnecote where 98 cases occurred out of a total of 170; there was a continuation of the epidemic in several of the other parishes in 1922 and again in 1923 with 190 and 78 cases respectively; sixteen cases in 1924 and 25 cases in 1925.



*Diphtheria.* In 1921 there were 48 cases notified, in 1922, 60 cases, 1923, 56 cases, in 1924 there were 82 cases, and in 1925 there were 178 cases, including 5 "carriers," notified.

### **Inquiry into Incidence of Diphtheria.**

On August 27th, Dr. MacKenzie a Medical Inspector from the Ministry of Health began an investigation into the above question, more especially as regards the outbreak at Glascote among the children attending the Council's Schools. Inquiries were made at the homes of children as to probable sources of infection, and as regards various other matters, such as the procedure adopted on the notifications of infectious disease, removal to the Isolation Hospital where possible, swabbings of throats of contacts and suspected cases, keeping of records, &c. Your Sanitary Inspector and myself gave the Inspector any information he required on the various points bearing on his investigations so far as we were able.

The arrangements for the supply of diphtheria antitoxin is similar in both districts, is readily available for Medical Practitioners, and the facilities for its use are largely taken advantage of by them. Cases are removed as early as possible to the Isolation Hospital, but there have been delays on some occasions, due to lack of accommodation there. Examinations have been made of children at their homes, and swabbings of contacts and suspected cases were forwarded to the University of Birmingham Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination. 385 ordinary swabs and 562 contact swabs were sent from the Warwickshire portion of the district, and 60 ordinary swabs and 191 contact swabs from the Staffordshire portion.

Children in various classes were examined in the Council's Schools. Dr. Hamilton Wood, County Medical Officer, attended at the Boys and Girls Council's Schools at Glascote where children's throats were inspected; in two classes examined of 54 boys three were found to be "carriers." At Wilnecote Schools Dr. Bracey, Assistant School Medical Officer, helped in the examination of the children and numerous swabbings of possible contacts and "carriers" were taken. Of 152 specimens submitted 16 were found to be positive. Other examinations gave varying results.

Hundreds of leaflets drawing attention to the dangerous character of the disease, and the vital importance of early medical treatment have been distributed.

Dr. Hamilton Wood, School Medical Officer, prepared a leaflet on diphtheria and sore throats for distribution among school children in the Glascote and Wilnecote districts where there was a prevalence of the disease. Directions were given to the School Teachers as to the use of paper towels, one for each child instead of the ordinary roller towels, the desirability of abolishing the common drinking cup or mug, and the provision of separate pencil boxes for each scholar, with child's name written on each box so that it will be sufficient to destroy the box with pens and pencils belonging only to the infected child.

All children from infected homes were excluded from school, contacts and suspicious cases were swabbed and specimens forwarded for bacteriological examination. Special swabbings were taken of children in classes at the schools, resulting in several "carriers" being discovered. Frequent visits were paid to the infected homes, and contacts were kept under observation. Pamphlets were widely distributed as to the danger of the disease and precautionary measures to be taken.

Disinfection was carried out by the Sanitary Staff in all cases where premises and articles had been exposed to infection; the walls were sprayed with formalin, aëration and soap and water completed the methods employed.

*Enteric Fever.* In 1921 there occurred the only case of enteric fever notified in the district for several years.

*Erysipelas.* In 1921 there were 9 cases notified, in 1922, 8 cases, in 1923, 4 cases, in 1924, 7, and in 1925, 5 cases notified.

*Vaccination.*

	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	Total.
(a) Primary Vaccinations	45	24	60	52	34	215
(b) Revaccinations	0	2	5	2	0	9



## Seasonal Incidence of Acute Infectious Diseases, 1925.

## (a) Staffordshire.

Month.	Small-pox.	Scarlet Fever.	Diphtheria.	Enteric Fever.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Encephalitis Lethargica.	Pneumonia.	Puerperal Sepsis.	Erysipelas.
January ...	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
February ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
March ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
April ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
May ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
June ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
July ...	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—
August ...	—	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
September	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
October ...	—	1	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
November	—	—	17	—	—	—	—	—	1
December	—	—	13	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	—	3	61	—	—	1	—	—	3

## (b) Warwickshire.

January ...	—	1	3	—	—	—	1	—	1
February ...	—	—	2	—	—	1	2	—	—
March ...	—	2	2	—	—	—	1	1	—
April ...	—	4	3	—	1	—	4	—	—
May ...	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
June ...	—	2	5	—	—	—	—	—	1
July ...	—	7	23	—	—	—	—	—	—
August ...	—	2	3	—	—	1	—	—	1
September	—	1	22	—	—	—	—	—	1
October ...	—	3	35	—	—	—	—	—	—
November	—	1	44	—	—	—	—	—	—
December	—	1	29	—	—	—	—	—	1
Total ...	—	25	173	—	1	2	8	1	5

**Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis) during  
the Year 1925.**

Staffordshire.

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small-pox ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	3	—	—
Diphtheria ... ..	61	18	4
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ... ..	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	—	—	3
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	1	—	2
Erysipelas ... ..	3	—	—
Total ... ..	68	18	9

Warwickshire.

Small-pox ... ..	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ... ..	25	6	1
Diphtheria ... ..	173	68	15
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid)	—	—	—
Puerperal Fever ... ..	1	1	—
Pneumonia (all forms) ... ..	8	—	9
Encephalitis Lethargica ... ..	2	—	2
Erysipelas ... ..	5	—	—
Poliomyelitis ... ..	1	1	—
Total ... ..	215	76	27

**Non-notifiable Acute Infectious Diseases.**

<i>Chicken Pox.</i> <i>Measles.</i> <i>Mumps.</i> <i>Whooping Cough.</i>	}	The school intimations of infectious cases were regularly received from the Teachers in the Public, Elementary and Secondary Schools, they were very useful as a means in helping to follow up cases at their homes. The schools in the area were closed from time to time as occasion required when any of these diseases made such procedure advisable.
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Pamphlets giving warning as to the dangers incurred from various infectious diseases and to the precautionary measures to be taken were freely distributed.

*Influenza.* In the Staffordshire and Warwickshire parishes this disease was somewhat prevalent in 1921, and complicated with pneumonia in 1922. In 1923 a milder type of this disease was prevalent, but in 1924 became again very prevalent in February and March, necessitating school-closure, it was complicated with bronchial and other affections. In 1925 there was also a good deal of influenza.

*Malaria.* One case was notified in 1922, at Fazeley.

*Tuberculosis.* Under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1924, it is required that a register be kept of all tuberculous persons in the area, and that it should be brought up to date at the end of each quarter when a statement of the number on the register is forwarded to the Medical Officers of Health for Staffordshire and Warwickshire.

The first quarterly return was made on 31st March, 1925, for which the number of cases on the register, also those at the close of the year were as follows:—

#### **Pulmonary Tuberculosis.**

	Staffordshire.			Warwickshire.		
	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.
31st March, 1925	7	9	16	18	8	26
31st December, 1925	6	5	11	10	8	18

#### **Non-Pulmonary.**

31st March	4	2	6	6	3	9
31st December	3	3	6	6	6	12

The new cases and mortality during the year are set out in the accompanying table:—

**Tuberculosis.****New Cases and Mortality during 1925.****Staffordshire.**

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
5	1	—	1	1	—	—	—	—
10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
25	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
35	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
45	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
55	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	2	2	1	2	1	2	1	1

One case was not notified of the 5 deaths.

**Warwickshire.**

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
5	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
10	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
15	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
20	—	3	—	1	2	1	—	—
25	1	3	—	1	—	—	—	—
35	4	1	—	—	1	3	—	—
45	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
55	1	—	—	—	3	1	—	—
65 and upwards	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—
Totals	8	9	2	5	10	5	—	2

### Maternity and Child Welfare

There are two Child Welfare Centres, one at Glascote and one at Wilnecote, which are fairly well attended at the Meetings held on alternate Thursdays in the first case and on Saturdays in the other. The Health Visitor, Miss Chorlton, assisted by voluntary help has carried out during this five years period the interesting work connected with the care and management of the babies in the matters of proper feeding and suitable clothing, the help obtained from weighing the babies, the matters relating to common ailments and the seeking of early medical advice where needed, and the importance of a sufficient diet suitable in quality and quantity for the mother, and of healthy surroundings, being all taken into due consideration.

*Puerperal Fever.* There have been notified during the last five years—

4 cases in 1921 (Warwickshire).	
1 fatal case in 1922 (Staffordshire).	
1 fatal case in 1923 (Warwickshire).	
nil	1924
1 case	in 1925 (Warwickshire).

*Poliomyelitis.* One case occurred in 1925 at Austrey, and was admitted to the Infirmary.

*Ophthalmia Neonatorum.* Two cases were notified in Warwickshire in 1921, five in 1922, one in 1923, one in 1924 and one in 1925. In the Staffordshire portion of the district only two cases occurred, viz:- in 1924. There were no injurious effects in these cases, and there were no deaths from this disease.

*Epidemic Diarrhœa.* Two deaths took place from this disease, which was not prevalent, one in August, the other in November.

Copies of this Report are required to be sent to the Secretary, Ministry of Health, Whitehall, to the Under Secretary of State, Home Office, Whitehall, to the Chief Medical Officer of the Ministry of Health, and to the County Councils of Staffordshire and Warwickshire.

The administrative work accomplished under the immediate supervision of your Sanitary Inspector, Mr. J. W. Parker, during this five years' period appears in his appended Report.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

**HERBERT J. FAUSSET, M.D.,**

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

# ANNUAL REPORT

## OF THE

# Sanitary Inspector

## FOR THE YEAR 1925.

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE TAMWORTH RURAL  
DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour of submitting to you my Twenty-seventh Annual Report, dealing with the work done in my department for the year ended 31st December, 1925.

The table following gives a summary of such work, and the results brought about by my inspections, etc. It will again be observed that the nuisances discovered are in excess of the notices served; this is explained by the fact that in many instances one notice embodied a complaint of the existence of several defects and nuisances which required remedying and abating.

In addition to the notices, nuisances, etc., referred to, I in many instances, verbally and by letter, intimated to the persons responsible what was required to be done at different premises in the district, and I am pleased to state that my requests were complied with, and obviated the necessity of serving the formal notices and reporting same at your monthly meetings.

### House Refuse Department.

The work of this department has been carried out during the year in the parishes of Bolehall and Glascote, Wilnecote and Fazeley.

During the summer and autumn the work was kept well in hand.

The parish of Wigginton was added to the area from which house refuse is removed as from 1st April, 1926, and when we get the work well established better conditions will prevail.

The ashpits and middens have been cleansed twice in systematic order besides at other times in many cases as occasion required.

The number of bins is still increasing, the privies and middens are gradually disappearing; and this change is a vast improvement;



in many cases, especially, where close to the houses the soil around them was fouled and a source of danger to the inhabitants.

One horse was killed by lightning and has not been replaced, the hauling for the work that could not be done by the teams we have, was done by Motor lorry and with two sets of men the work carried out by it was equal to that of two horses, whether this method of hauling will be economical remains to be seen, as the driver already refuses to go on certain tips.

4,358 loads of refuse were removed against 4,983 loads in the previous year.

The number of houses including factories, workshops and schools in the four parishes is estimated at:— 2,969, and the sanitary conveniences used are set out as follows:—

		Totals.	Bolehall & Glascote.	Wilnecote & Castle Liberty.	Fazeley.	Wigginton.
Water Closets	-	2186	1023	671	245	247
Bins	-	1097	527	268	130	172
Dry Ashpits	-	1096	503	403	121	69
Privy Middens	-	768	137	285	178	168
Pail Closets	-	25	2	6	10	7

The population of these four parishes is estimated at 14,845.

In the parishes of Kingsbury and Amington there are quite a number of water closets and the refuse from the houses is removed periodically chiefly by arrangement with the owners and the occupiers, in some cases trouble arises through delay but on the whole the work is carried out efficiently

#### **Drainage Work and Drain Testing.**

Additions and renewals to house drainage have taken place in several cases after test, and in instances where the abolition of privies has taken place and water closets fixed.

The water test is still used, and it is necessary to keep in close touch when this class of work is in progress.

#### **Slaughterhouses.**

Twenty-two slaughterhouses are on the register. Seven are registered and 14 are licensed for one year.

Notices to cleanse and purify have been served in three instances, and the removal of offal promptly was neglected in several cases.

42 lbs. of fish were surrendered as unfit for human food.



The Public Health (Meat) Regulations 1924, came into force on the 1st April, 1925, copies of the order were sent to all the Butchers and other Tradesmen dealing in such meat to which the order applies.

140 Notifications of slaughter of animals were received, 97 of which were for salting or for consumption by the family.

One beast and parts of 2 others, 2 pigs, 2 sheep and part of a carcass of another one, were condemned.

It was necessary in several cases to warn men who were delivering meat, chiefly that the meat in the vans was not protected from dust, the vans being open at both ends; some improvement has been effected.

The slaughterhouses in this district are widely separated and one has to take advantage of inspection when in the localities.

One knacker dealer is licensed for one year.

#### **Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.**

Two samples of milk were taken for analysis in consequence of complaints received of dirty milk; the results show both samples to be of good quality and free from excessive amount of extraneous dirt, there being less than one part in 100,000 in each case.

One sample was taken in consequence of illness having occurred amongst families served with milk from the same farm and this was found to be of good quality.

13 Registrations have been cancelled and there remain on the list:—

(1).	Wholesalers, Warwickshire	-	65	
	„	Staffordshire	-	52
			—	117
(2).	Retailers, Warwickshire	-	49	
	„	Staffordshire	-	18
			—	67
(3).	Retailers whose premises are			
	outside the District	-	5	5
				<hr/>
				189

#### **Vans used as Dwellings.**

Tents, vans, and similar structures used as dwellings that have attended various fairs and at other times have been examined and enquiries made as regards sickness, &c. No case of infectious disease was met with.

Several huts have been erected and are allowed to be used under license for a period of years.

### Petroleum Acts.

Fifteen new licenses were granted during the year. Fifty-two were renewed and in cases where the proposed site was unsuitable such alterations were made before the license was issued.

As stated in previous reports the number of petrol driven vehicles is ever increasing and under certain conditions are exempt from the operation of the Acts.

Seventeen licenses renewed for the storage of Carbide of Calcium.

### Shops Acts, 1912-13.

The conditions set forth in these Acts have been observed, and it has not been found necessary to take any proceedings; most of the Shopkeepers do not employ Assistants, consequently little difficulty arises in that respect; the half-day closing is observed in all cases.

The following is a list of Shops in the various Parishes in the Staffordshire portion of the District.

	Fazeley.	Hints.	Wigginton.	Harlaston.	Edingale.	Clifton.	Drayton	Canwell.	Total.
Butchers ...	4					1			5
Grocers ...	13	1	3		1	1	1		20
Public Houses & off Licenses ...	7		6	1	2	1		1	18
Greengrocers ...	3								3
Boot Dealers ...	2		1			2			5
China and Hard- ware ...	4								4
Confectioners ...	3	1							4
Stationers ...	2							1	3
Drapers ...	2						1		3
Coal Dealers ...	1		1						2
Saddlers ..				1		1			2
Cycle, &c., acces- sories ...	2		1						3
Totals ...	43	2	12	2	3	6	2	2	72

### Factories and Workshops.

There are 152 factories and workshops on my register, many of which have been examined during the year.

The factories are provided with suitable means of egress in case of fire. No new factories have been erected, but extensions have been made at Messrs. Fisher's Mill, Kettlebrook, Messrs. Marsdens, Messrs. Skey & Co's., and at Stoneware, Dosthill.

The attention of several occupiers was called to the need for limewashing and the cleansing of sanitary conveniences.

One notification was received from His Majesty's Inspector, and the matters referred to were attended to. Three omissions of occupiers to exhibit Abstracts of Factory Act were forwarded to H.M. Inspector, and these have received his attention.

The following is a list of factories and workshops within the district.

WORKSHOPS.		FACTORIES.	
Basket Makers	- 2	Corn Mills	- 3
Carpenters	- 7	Saw Mills	- 5
Wheelwrights	- 4	Paper Mills	- 2
Dressmakers	- 20	Bakehouses	- 2
Cycle Repairers	- 10	Firelighter	- 1
Shoemakers	- 6	Fitters and Iron Foundry	2
Blaeksmiths	- 10	Gas Works	- 1
Brass Founder	- 1	Cabinet Maker	- 1
Plumbers	- 6	Brick Works	- 6
Paperhangers	- 6	Sanitary Pipe Works	3
Paper Bag Maker	- 1	Tape Mills	- 3
Boat Builders	- 2	Bleach Works	- 1
Tailors	- 3	Stone Quarry	- 1
Saddlers	- 2	Collieries	- 8
Laundries (Hand)	- 2	Motor Garage (Bus' Co.)	1
Cabinet Maker	- 1	Clothing Manufacturer	1
Sand Pit	- 3	Beer Bottling	- 1
Marine Stores	- 2		
Gut Seraper	- 1		
Bakehouses	- 20		
Tin Worker	- 1		
Total 110		Total 42	

### **Outworkers.**

Only one list has been received during the year, it appears that the greater portion of the work formerly done in the houses of the worker is now carried on in the factory, which is far better from our point of view.

No work was stopped in consequence of infectious disease.

### **Schools.**

Disinfectants are supplied to the Schools as required, and more especially about the Easter and Midsummer Holidays, when it is the practice of the Managers to have them thoroughly cleansed.

During this year by reason of a severe epidemic of diphtheria particularly in Glascote and Kettlebrook all the schools were thoroughly disinfected by formalin spray and fumigation, as were also the following schools, viz:— Wilnecote, Amington, Fazeley, Wood End and Hurley.

The pens, pencils and books which were used by the classes from which most of the cases came together with other material which was badly worn were destroyed.

The attention of Teachers was called to the bad practice of children putting the pens and pencils in their mouths, with a view to its being checked.

### **Housing.**

Repairs have been carried out to many houses in most of the parishes but much is still required, notices were served in nine cases, seven were remedied and closing orders were made in two, after which the necessary work to make them fit was carried out.

There is still a great shortage of houses and it is doubtful if the demand can be supplied by private enterprise.

### **Pathisis.**

Your shelter is still stored at the Kettlebrook Depôt, and four shelters belonging to the County Committee are in use and are visited by the County and your own Medical Officer.

After deaths the houses are disinfected and cleansed your Council defraying one half the cost in each case.

### Canal Boats Acts, 1877—1884.

The Birmingham and Coventry Canals in this District are about 11 miles in length, and I have on frequent occasions visited them at various points for the purpose of examining canal boats which are used as dwellings.

Thirty-four boats were inspected and particulars of each recorded.

Two boats carrying offensive cargoes had the necessary bulkheads, and were in good condition.

The cabins were registered for the occupation of 101 persons, but were only occupied by 76, viz:—

Male adults	-	-	32
Female adults	-	-	23
Children of School age	-		17
Children under School age	-		4
		—	
			76

Boats do not remain in this district for any lengthy period and it is considered that no advantage is gained by these children attending schools in the various localities.

The ages of the children are classified as follows:—

1 aged 12 years.	3 aged 6 years.
2 „ 11 „	1 „ 5 „
2 „ 10 „	1 „ 4 „
4 „ 9 „	1 „ 3 „
1 „ 8 „	1 „ 2 „
4 „ 7 „	1 „ 1 „

Twenty-six contraventions were met with, namely:—

- 5 Absence of Certificates
- 3 Certificates not identifying Owner
- 1 Marking
- 1 Female over age
- 3 Cleanliness
- 4 Painting required
- 5 Dilapidation
- 1 Removal of Bilge Water
- 3 No proper Water Vessel

---

26

It should be stated that the contraventions referred to occurred on nine boats, so that of the 34 examined 25 were in good condition.

The persons responsible for these defects and omissions were communicated with, and, with the exception of four cases, the causes of complaint have been remedied.

Twelve Masters were householders, eighteen made the boats their homes, whilst four boats were void.

No boats were detained for disinfection purposes and no case of infectious disease was met with.

The Ministry of Health amended the Canal Boats Regulations on the 9th June, 1925, and thereby made your Council a Registration Authority to operate as and from the 1st September, 1925.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

*John W. Parker*



## SUMMARY OF SANITARY WORK OF DISTRICT, 1925.

		Inspections and Observations made.	Formal Notices by Authority.	Nuisances abated after Notice.
Dwlg. Houses and Schools.	{ Foul Conditions ...	... 381	15	14
	{ Structural Defects ...	... 278	46	39
	{ Overcrowding ...	... 40	2	2
	{ Unfit for Habitation ...	... 15	2	2
	Dairies and Milkshops ..	197	—	—
	Cow Sheds ...	... 213	2	1
	Bakehouses ...	... 73	7	6
	Slaughter Houses ...	... 156	5	5
	Canal Boats ...	... 34	4	4
	Ashpits and Privies ...	... 1786	96	85
	Deposits of Refuse and Manure	87	—	—
	Water Closets ...	... 879	14	14
House Drainage.	{ Defective Traps ...	} 1372	—	321
	{ No Disconnections ...			
	{ Other Faults ...			
	Water Supply ..	... 410	2	2
	Pigsties ...	... 124	4	4
	Animals improperly kept ...	... 22	—	8
	Offensive Trades ..	... 22	—	—
	Smoke Nuisances ..	... 3	—	—
	Other Nuisances ...	... 324	19	17
	Dirty Houses ...	... 22	3	3
TOTALS ...		6438	221	527

Unwholesome Food Surrendered	{	773 lbs. Beef
		135 „ Mutton
		220 „ Pork
		42 „ Fish

Samples of Water taken for Analysis	5
„ „ condemned as unfit for use	4
„ „ regarded as of doubtful quality	1

**Precautions against Infectious Disease.**

Houses Disinfected after Infectious Disease	... 241
Schools „ „ „	... 17

Disinfectants are supplied to all schools for washing furniture,  
floors, walls, etc.









